Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release: May 21, 2014
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Come Spend Memorial Day Weekend in the Mountains
at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, CALIFORNIA – Don't let the recent snow in the mountains deter you from spending Memorial Day weekend at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Flurries and very limited snowfall have melted quickly at popular destinations, such as Giant Forest and Lodgepole in Sequoia National Park and Grant Grove in Kings Canyon National Park. The forecast for the holiday weekend is sunny and warm. *For more information, visit www.nps.gov/seki or call 559-565-3341.*

- **Nearly all park facilities are open.**
  - Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road in Sequoia National Park is open.
  - Mineral King Road in Sequoia National Park is open.
  - Highway 180 is open to Roads End in Cedar Grove.
  - Panoramic Point Road is open.
  - The road between the parks is open.
  - There are no tire chain or cable restrictions at this time. For the latest road conditions, call 559-565-3341 (press 1, 1).

- **Campgrounds:**
  - All of the parks' campgrounds will open for the Memorial Day holiday weekend, except for two in Sequoia National Park--Cold Springs (Mineral King) and Dorst Creek. Most campgrounds are first-come, first-served.
  - To find out if reservations are available at Potwisha, Buckeye Flat, or Lodgepole campgrounds this weekend, visit www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777 (10 a.m.-12 midnight EST).

- **Crystal Cave:** Crystal Cave is open for the season--but has temporarily closed due to recent severe weather. Cave staff will reassess road and trail conditions on May 22. The cave will reopen as soon as it is safe to do so. Info: www.sequoiahistory.org.

- **Ranger-led Programs:** www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/rangerprogsched.htm

- **Visitor Centers:** Park visitor centers offer exhibits and films and sell books, maps, hats, postcards, etc. All purchases support the parks! Info: www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm.
  - **Sequoia National Park**
    - *Foothills Visitor Center* – Open year-round from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily
    - *Giant Forest Museum* – Starting on May 23, hours will be extended to 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily
    - *Lodgepole Visitor Center* – Starting on May 23, hours will be extended to 7 a.m.-6 p.m. daily
  - **Kings Canyon National Park**
    - *Cedar Grove Visitor Center* – Starting on May 22, open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily
    - *Kings Canyon Visitor Center* – Open daily from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

- **Lodging and Food:** For information about hours and opening/closing dates for food service and markets inside of the parks, please visit:
  - Lodging: www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/lodging.htm
  - Where to Eat: www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/wheretoeat.htm

- **Sequoia Shuttle:** The Sequoia Shuttle will operate seven days-a-week, both inside and outside the parks, from May 22 through September 1, 2014, from approximately 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.
  - *From Outside the Parks:* A round-trip ride from outside the parks costs $15, and covers the park entrance fee. All shuttle buses are wheelchair accessible. For details and reservations for the shuttle from outside the parks, visit www.sequoiashuttle.com or call 1-877-BUS-HIKE. Then, ride the free in-park shuttle from the Giant Forest Museum.
  - *Inside the Parks:* http://www.nps.gov/seki/planyourvisit/parktransit.htm. During shuttle operations in summer, Crescent Meadow/Moro Rock Road is closed to private vehicles on weekends and holidays from approximately 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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